PATENT APPLICATION

Docker Number: 012237-0281180

Client Reference: B 00/1600 US - GK/AE

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of

DAUGA Group Art Unit: 3737

Application No.: 09/886,395 Examiner: R. SMITH

Filed: June 22, 2001 Confirmation No.: 4258

For: APPARATUS AND PROCESS FOR EXAMINING A SURFACE

May 12, 2006

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner return an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to Applicants with the next Office communication to indicate that the reference(s) has been considered, per MPEP § 609.

I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR 1.97(e)(2).

05/15/2006 SZEWDIE1 00000055 033975 09886395 03 FC:1806 180.00 DA DAUGA - 09/886,395

Attorney Docket No.: 012237-0281180

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Please charge Deposit Account 033975 in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i)(p). Please credit or debit Deposit Account 033975 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.

Respectfully submitted,

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